

Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; they must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges as well as contribute at least 100 man-hours toward a community oriented service project.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Sean and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition, October 4, 2009. Congratulations to Sean and his family.

TOM KING

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the actions of Mr. Tom King of Saint Jacob, Illinois.

Mr. King rode his bicycle halfway across the United States to commemorate the life of Caleb Zarzecki, a former student who lost his battle with cancer last year. King, a teacher at Collinsville Middle School, described his ride as “a journey of faith and healing.” The cross-country journey raised funds for a scholarship established in Caleb Zarzecki’s name.

Mr. King started his journey on June 26 in Seattle, Washington, and traveled more than 2,000 miles to his home in Saint Jacob, Illinois. He rode 40 to 60 miles every day, sleeping at local campgrounds and churches in Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and finally Illinois.

Mr. King’s actions exemplify a teacher’s devotion to his students. It is my hope that this model of dedication may inspire us all. As we honor Mr. King, I extend my heartfelt thoughts and prayers to the family of Caleb Zarzecki.

RICHARD J. AND FRANCES G.
COWEN

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I stand today to honor the memory and service of Mr. Richard J. Cowen and his wife, Mrs. Frances G. Cowen, both members of the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. Mr. and Mrs. Cowen were residents of my district in upstate New York, and their daughter, Ms. Mary F. Bechy, currently resides in Waterville, NY.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowen were highly decorated for their service in the American and Pacific Theaters. Mrs. Cowen, a nurse in Hawaii and the Philippines, received the Asiatic Pacific Theater ribbon with Bronze Star, the Philippine Liberation ribbon, the American Theater ribbon and the World War II Victory Medal. For his service, Mr. Cowen was honored with the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the Philippine Liberation Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Cowen for their service on behalf of our Nation during a time of great peril. Their sacrifice and dedication is truly an example for us all. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. and Mrs. Cowen and the many men and women who serve in our Nation’s Armed Forces.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 80

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to rise today to honor one of America’s finest organizations, the American Legion, and to recognize one of its local posts, Whiting American Legion Post 80, on its 90th anniversary. Post 80 came to be shortly after the founding of the national organization. In honor of this momentous occasion, the members of Post 80 will be celebrating with dinner and entertainment on Sunday, September 19, 2009, at the legion hall in Whiting, where they will host Robert Newman, Department of Indiana American Legion Commander, as their featured speaker.

Just yesterday, the United States House of Representatives joined the Senate in passing legislation supporting the goals and ideals of American Legion Day. For the past ninety years, Whiting Post 80 has been an extraordinary example of the ideals and mission of the American Legion. Overall, the American Legion boasts nearly 15,000 posts, and remarkably, consists of nearly three million members. In their communities, American Legion posts are a source of pride for their many contributions made to aid veterans and to better their communities.

Throughout the years, Whiting Post 80 has taken heed of the American Legion’s mission. They have been well known in the Whiting-Robertsdale area for their many activities aimed at honoring veterans, which have included an honor guard and drum and bugle corps, but also for their many programs that serve the youth and families in their community.

From within the ranks of its membership, Whiting Post 80 has seen some of its members rise to great ranks within the American Legion organization. They have had two members, Donald Hynes and Richard Quattrin, serve as Department of Indiana Commanders. Quite impressively, Mr. Quattrin also served at the national level as the National Executive Committeeman for the Department of Indiana. Four of Post 80’s members have also been honored with the American Legion’s highest award, The Distinguished Service Award. These individuals are: Donald Hynes, who served as post adjutant for five years, Leo Mulva, who served as post adjutant for a remarkable forty-eight years, Richard Quattrin, who also served an impressive thirty years as post adjutant, and Bert Tiemersma.

Additionally, of the nearly one hundred World War II veterans who are members of Post 80, sixteen of them have over sixty years of service to the organization, including their longtime service officer, Nick Oprisko, who still serves in that capacity and is in his 66th year with the post.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing American Legion Post 80 and its members on its 90th anniversary. I also ask that you join me in honoring its membership for their service to their community, its veterans, and their commitment to the ideals of the American Legion. Their efforts have played a major role in elevating the quality life in their community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ISRAEL CANCER RESEARCH FUND AND THE 2009 BARBARA GOODMAN ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC AWARDS & DONOR RECOGNITION EVENING

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary organization, an amazing group of donors and the launch of a new musical. The Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) is the single largest source of private funds for cancer research in Israel, and its generous donors have raised nearly \$37 million for cancer research by Israeli scientists. Tonight at the 2009 Barbara Goodman Annual Scientific Awards & Donor Recognition evening, ICRF is announcing this year’s cancer research grants and celebrating the magnanimousness of ICRF’s remarkable benefactors. The evening’s festivities will feature a preview performance of Wallenberg, The Musical, a new musical about the courageous efforts of Raoul Wallenberg to save a significant portion of the Hungarian Jewish community from the Holocaust.

Since its founding in 1975, ICRF has become the largest single source of private funds for cancer research in the State of Israel. The Fund has provided tens of millions of dollars worth of grants in thousands of separate awards to top-notch scientists at all of Israel’s leading research institutions. ICRF awards are often the first grants young scientists receive following completion of their academic studies, and allow them to establish labs, begin their professional research and attract grants from other sources, while remaining in Israel. Grant recipients include the first Israelis ever to receive the Nobel Prize in the sciences. Some remarkable breakthroughs of ICRF-supported researchers include the development of drugs that treat multiple myeloma; that target cancer cells directly; and that are encapsulated in a liposome for direct delivery to tumor sites. Other projects have helped scientists conduct cutting-edge cancer research on genes, leading to the identification of the p53 gene as a tumor suppressor; the discovery that a minor mutation in the RAD51 gene increases the risk of breast cancer; and pioneering work on DNA Methylation, a molecular process that turns genes on and off. In addition, ICRF provided critical support to the development of a novel bone marrow transplant technique that significantly expanded the donor pool for leukemia treatment.

Barbara S. Goodman lost her battle to pancreatic cancer on July 18, 2002 at the age of 51. She was a loving wife and mother and a devoted friend who made the people she loved the center of her life. Ms. Goodman had

also fought bone cancer and survived the disease for fifteen years. She would be proud to know that research is being conducted in her name that will advance our ability to treat pancreatic cancer and help those afflicted with the disease. Her husband, Kenneth Goodman, who is serving as Chairman of the evening's festivities, has demonstrated remarkable generosity and great dedication to the noble effort to expand cancer research funding.

The award recipients, donors and attendees of tonight's event will be treated to a preview performance of Wallenberg, The Musical, book and lyrics by Laurence Holzman and Felicia Needleman, and music by Benjamin Rosenbluth. Wallenberg tells the fascinating and uplifting story of Raoul Wallenberg, one of the heroes of the 20th century, a Swedish diplomat who singlehandedly saved more than 100,000 Hungarian Jews in a sixth month period. His courage demonstrates that one person can have a monumental impact and suggests that history could have been different had more people acted as valiantly as Mr. Wallenberg. The presentation will take place at the historic Hudson Theatre, a landmarked theatre built in 1903 by Henry Harris, that later became a radio playhouse, a television studio, a burlesque theatre, a rock club and most recently, an elegant venue for special events. Mr. Wallenberg's niece, Louise Von Dardel, is flying in from Paris to be present at the event.

Like Raoul Wallenberg, the donors, ICRF and the scientists are proving that individuals can make an extraordinary difference. Raoul Wallenberg succeeded through personal heroism and audacious ploys, while ICRF's heroes make a difference through their benevolence, volunteer work and scientific research. The work that these extraordinary people are doing will save thousands of lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the exemplary work being done by ICRF and the scientists it funds, and the extraordinary generosity of its donors.

RELATIONS BETWEEN REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I am encouraged by the latest movement towards normalization of relations between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Armenia.

On August 31, 2009, the Foreign Ministers of Turkey, Armenia and Switzerland sent out a joint press release which was the latest significant step down the path to establishing diplomatic relations between Turkey and Armenia. The countries have completed and initiated two protocols which will, when they enter into force, provide a framework for the normalization of the bilateral relations. Moreover, I am encouraged that the parties have also included a timetable for implementation of the agreement which is an added confidence building measure for both sides. The citizens of Turkey and Armenia can now see a positive light at the end of the tunnel and we should do what we can to help them achieve their common goals.

This is a significant step in the right direction for the region and the world at large. The United States should continue to encourage and support the efforts of Turkey and Armenia, with the good offices of Switzerland, to build a productive and stable bilateral relationship and thereby enhance stability throughout the region.

IN RECOGNITION OF ARMY SPECIALIST MATTHEW HASTINGS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated patriot and a true American hero. On August 17, 2009, our nation lost a brave service member when Army Specialist Matthew D. Hastings died in Baghdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, from a non-combat related incident.

Army Specialist Hastings lived in Claremore, Oklahoma, but his father resides in Jefferson, Arkansas. Although I never had the honor to meet Specialist Hastings, on behalf of the State of Arkansas, I extend my utmost condolences to his family, friends and all who knew him for this devastating loss.

Army Specialist Hastings was assigned to the 582nd Medical Logistics Company, 1st Medical Brigade, 13th Sustainment Command, Fort Hood, Texas. He graduated from Broken Arrow Alternative Academy in 2005 and joined the military a year later as a light-wheel vehicle mechanic. According to those who knew him, he loved to hunt and fish, took great pride in his work and treasured time spent with his family and friends. I am sure he will be sorely missed.

My deepest thoughts and prayers are with his mother and stepfather, Lawanda and Roger Lowry; his father, Chuck Hastings, Jr.; his sister, Michelle; and, the rest of his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time.

Today, I ask all members of Congress to join me as we honor the life of Army Specialist Matthew Hastings and all those men and women in our Armed Forces who give the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country.

COMMENDING FIRST COMMUNITY BANK ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend First Community Bank on 100 years of service in southwest Alabama.

On June 6, 1909, in the office of Granade and Granade, Attorneys, Chatham State Bank was first organized. The next month the bank's charter was filed with a capital stock of \$25,000 and 250 shares at \$100 per share. For the next five years, the bank conducted business in the tax assessor's office at the Washington County Courthouse.

In 1910, construction on the first building for Chatham State Bank began and today, the

bank continues to operate on the same site. During the Great Depression when all banks were required to close for a specified period of time, Chatham State Bank was one of only a few area banks able to reopen immediately.

On August 30, 1974, a branch bank was opened in Millry. The bank began serving the people of Mobile County in 1985 when the bank purchased the Mt. Vernon office from First National Bank of Mobile. To reflect its growth and service to Mobile and Washington Counties, Chatham State Bank changed its name to First Community Bank on July 19, 1986. Since that time, the bank has expanded to Citronelle and Saraland, as well as locations on Schillinger Road and Cottage Hill Road in Mobile.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Glen Davis and all of those at First Community Bank on 100 years of outstanding service. For this and all of their accomplishments, I extend my heartfelt thanks for their continued service to the Alabama business community, the First Congressional District, and the state of Alabama.

It is my hope First Community Bank continues its story of success for another 100 years.

REMEMBERING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE FLOYD

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, this week we mark 10 years since the floodwaters of Hurricane Floyd devastated eastern North Carolina, killing 52 people, causing over \$6 billion in damage, and leaving thousands homeless. In the eastern part of the state, it is known simply as "The Flood." It remains the most devastating natural disaster in our state's history.

On September 16th, 1999, Hurricane Floyd hit North Carolina as a strong Category 2 hurricane. Hurricane Floyd made landfall at Cape Fear and moved north along Interstate 95, hitting eastern North Carolina with 100-mph winds and up to two feet of rain. Of the two, the rain proved the more fatal element. Arriving on the heels of Hurricane Dennis, which had already soaked the ground and water table, Floyd's rains created massive flooding.

Over a period of a month, nearly every river basin in eastern North Carolina exceeded 500-year flood levels. The cresting waters destroyed 7,000 homes, left 17,000 uninhabitable, and damaged 56,000. The brave men and women of the National Guard and the Coast Guard performed nearly 1,700 freshwater rescues of people trapped on the roofs of their homes due to the rapid rise of the water. In total, Floyd was responsible for 57 fatalities in the United States, mostly in North Carolina.

Sixty-six counties in North Carolina were declared federal disaster areas. There were more than \$6 billion in losses of property and agriculture. After the storm, over 88,500 North Carolinians registered state or federal disaster aid.

Every community I represent was in some way affected by "The Flood." From flooded towns of Greenville, Kinston, Tarboro, Snow